



**CORSYM2017**  
International Corrosion  
Prevention Symposium for  
Research Scholars 2017



# **The Influence of Hot Forming Process on the Microstructure and Corrosion Performance of Recycled Magnesium Alloys**

**CORSYM 2017 Presentation**

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# OUTLINE

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Experimental**
- 3. Results**
  - **Microstructure evolution**
  - **Corrosion behaviour**
- 4. Conclusions**

# PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

## **Introduction**

- Usage & Recyclability for Magnesium Alloy – Challenges
- Deformation mechanism of magnesium and its alloys
- Casting and Hot Forming-Quenching (HFQ) process
- Corrosion of magnesium alloy

## **Experimental**

- Specimen preparation
- Microstructure characterization
- Corrosion morphology observation and measurement

## **Result**

- Microstructure evolution
- Corrosion behaviour

# USAGE & RECYCLABILITY FOR MAGNESIUM ALLOYS

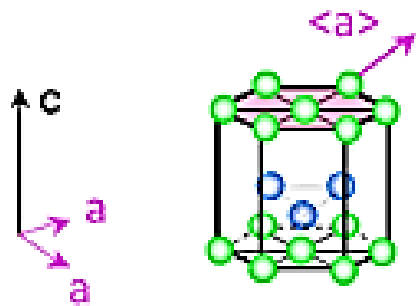
- Energy saving and cost effective magnesium sheet – vehicle lightweighting
- Limitation in deformation due to very few slip system.
- Anisotropy properties (crystallography orientation)
- Unsatisfactory corrosion performance in most environment.



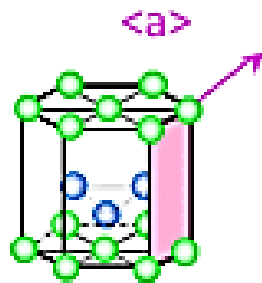
# DEFORMATION MECHANISM OF MAGNESIUM

## SLIP

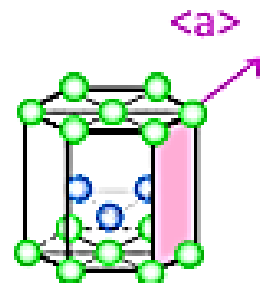
## TWINNING



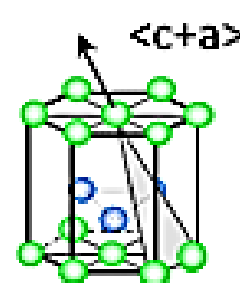
Basal  $\langle a \rangle$  slip



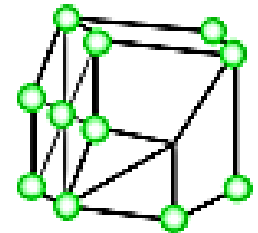
Prismatic  $\langle a \rangle$  slip (cross slip)



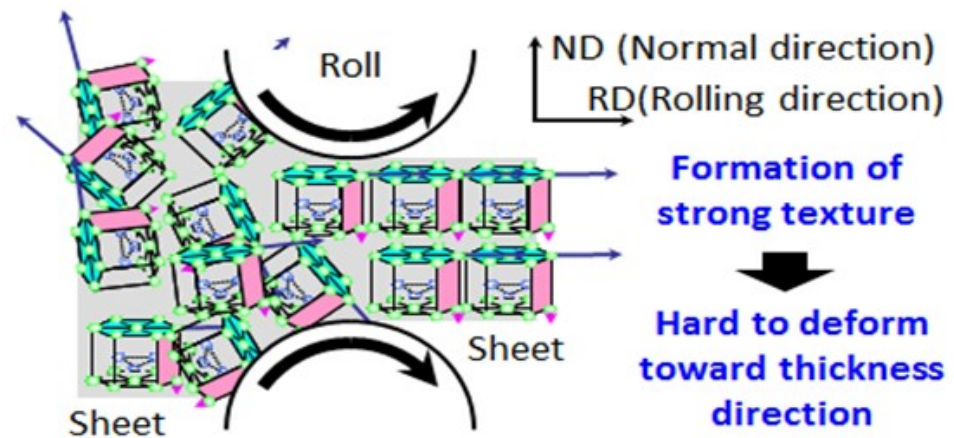
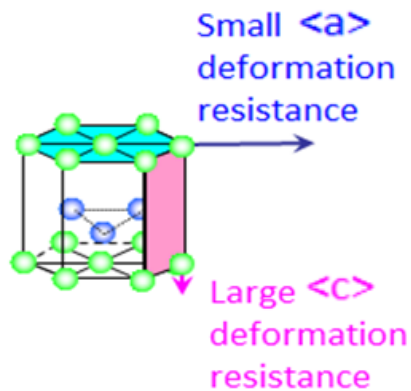
Prismatic  $\langle a \rangle$  slip



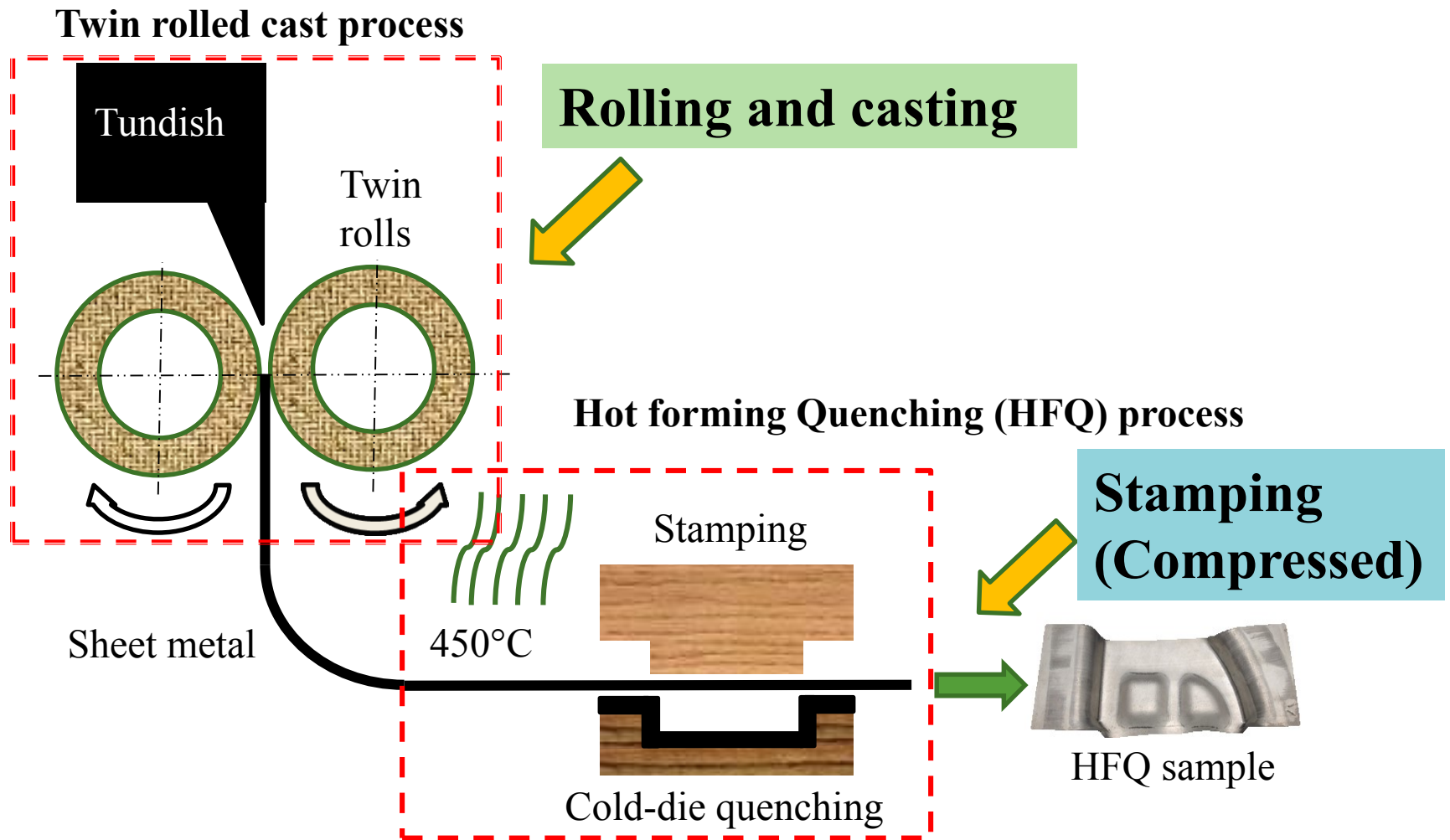
Pyramidal  $\langle c+a \rangle$  slip



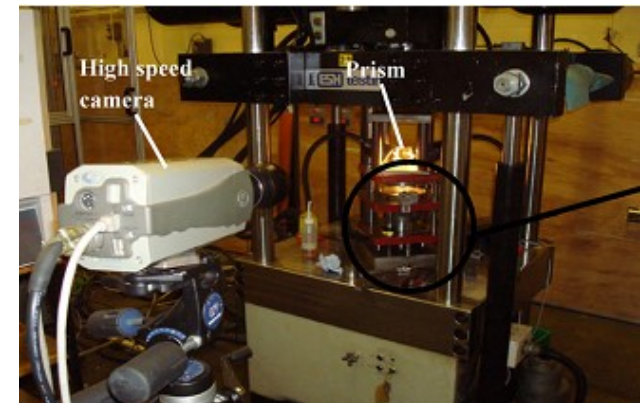
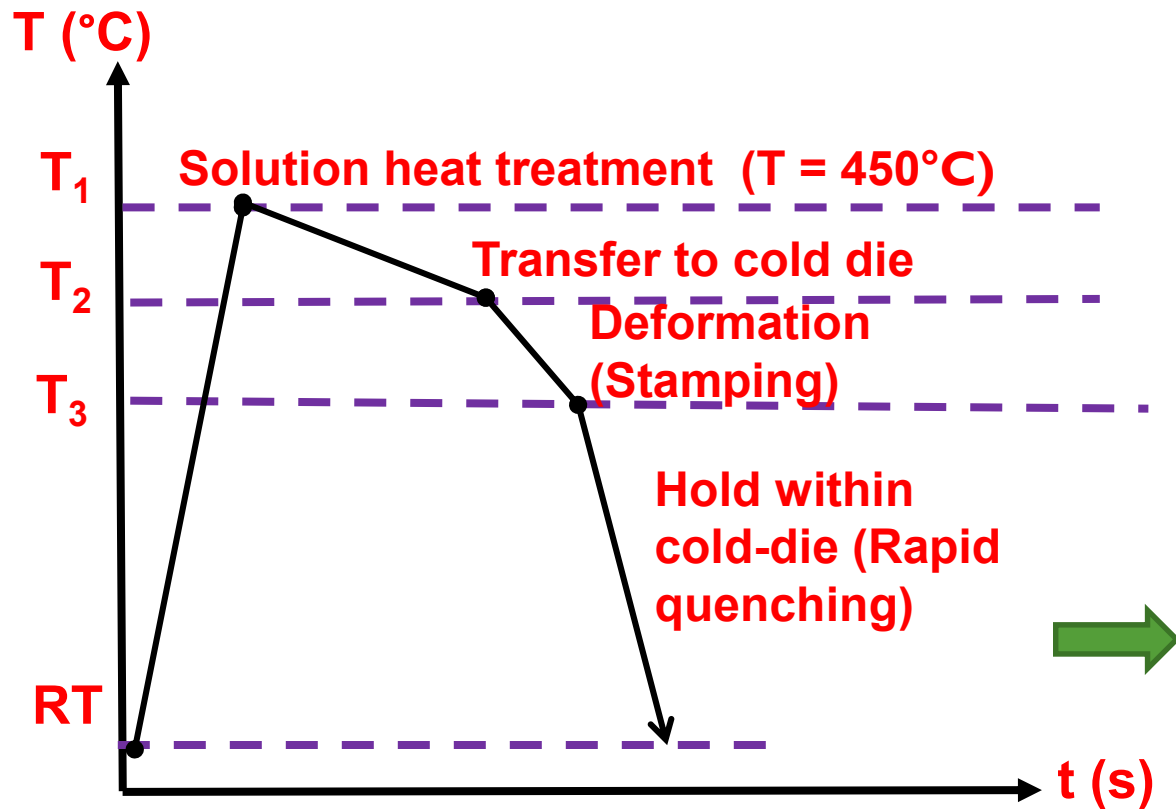
$\{10\bar{1}2\}$  twinning



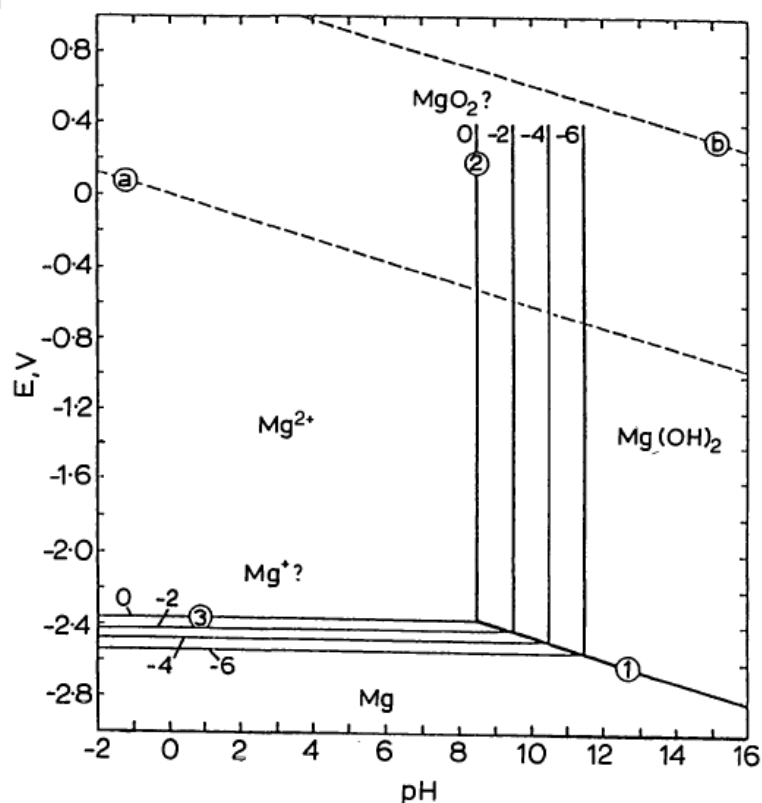
# CASTING & HOT FORMING QUENCHING (HFQ)



# HFQ SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM



# CORROSION OF MAGNESIUM

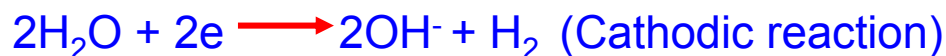


## Magnesium alloy

- ✓ Standard electrode potential = -2.37 V, in aqueous solution = -1.67 V vs SCE

### ‘Rapid corroding metal’

Chemical reaction :



- ✓ Hydrogen evolution and corrosion rate increases, with increasing potential

### ‘Negative difference effect (NDE)’



# EXPERIMENTAL WORK

## **Specimen preparation**

- Mechanical grinding
- Diamond polishing
- Chemical etching

## **Microstructure characterization**

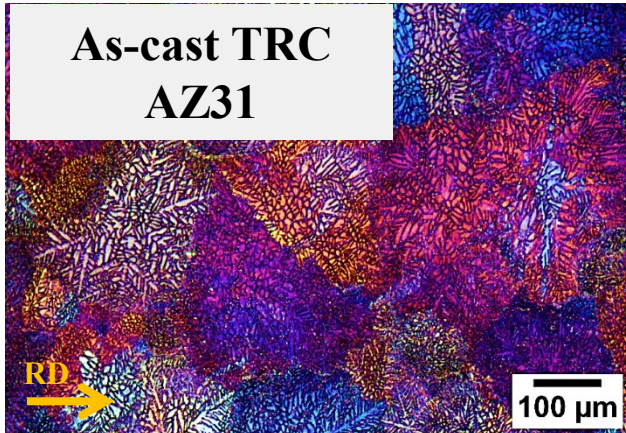
- Optical micrograph
- Field emission scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

## **Corrosion evaluation**

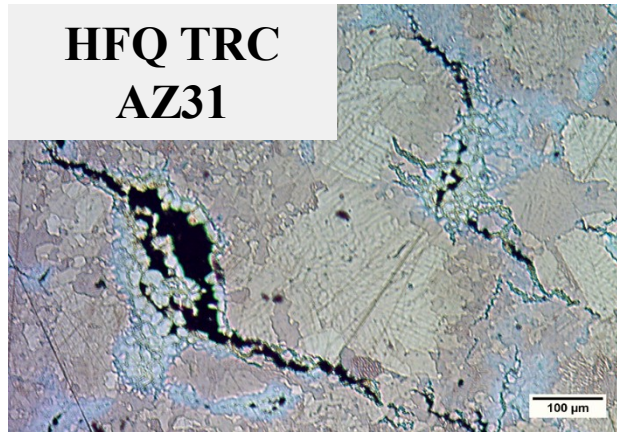
- Hydrogen evolution experiment (immersion testing)
- SEM, EDX and optical micrograph
- Electrochemical measurement : Open circuit potential, potentiodynamic polarization

# MICROSTRUCTURE EVOLUTION

As-cast TRC  
AZ31



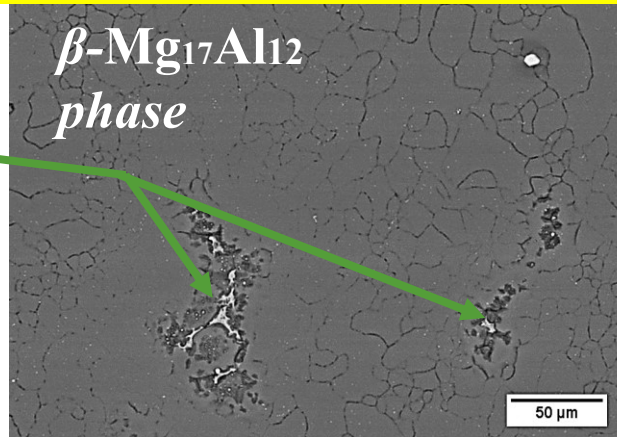
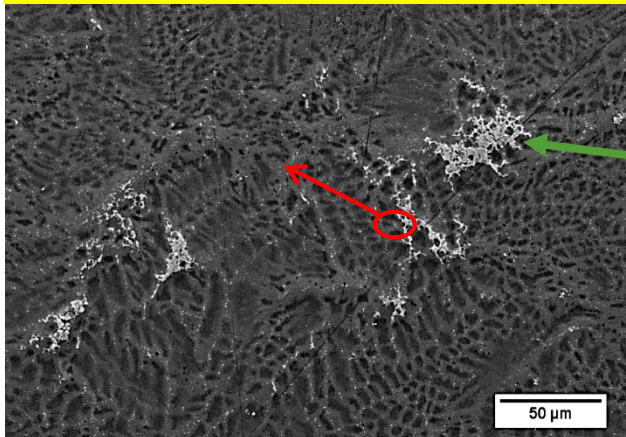
HFQ TRC  
AZ31



## As-cast :

- Coarse dendrites
- Dendrite mean size = 200  $\mu\text{m}$
- Particle type = Continuous or network  $\beta$ -phase distribution

## Rolled surface (RS)



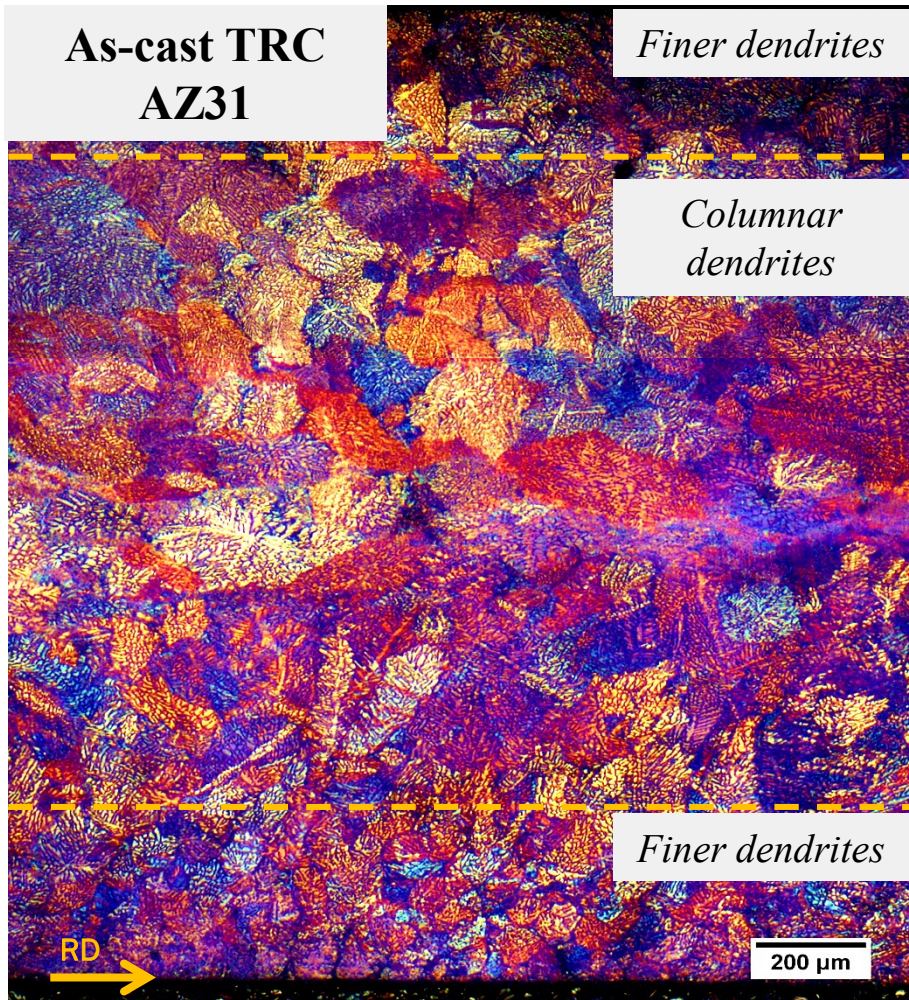
## HFQ :

- Recrystallized bimodal grain, dendrite morphology
- Range of grain size = 1.7 – 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- Particle type = Discontinuous or random  $\beta$ -phase distribution

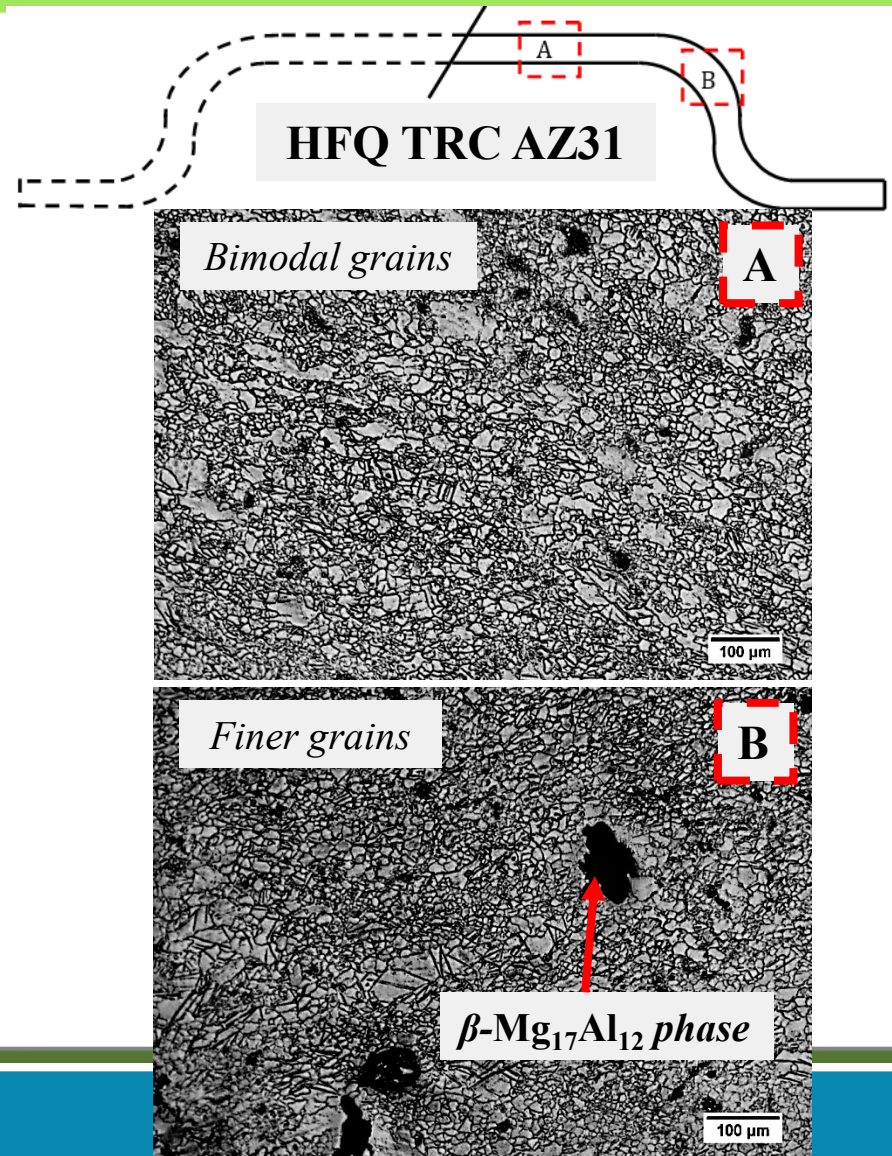


# THROUGH THICKNESS MICROSTRUCTURE

As-cast TRC  
AZ31



HFQ TRC AZ31

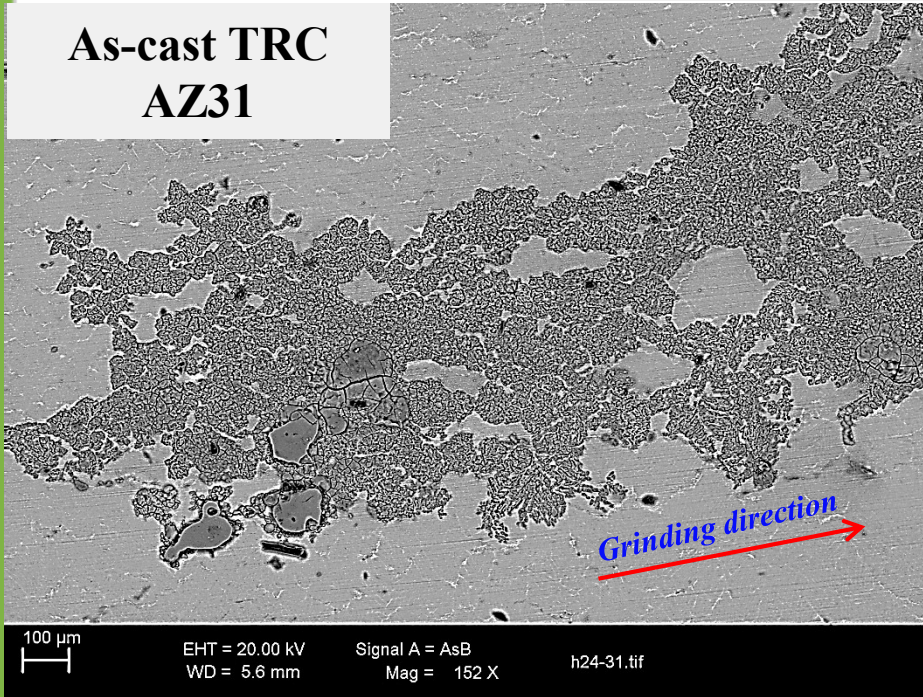




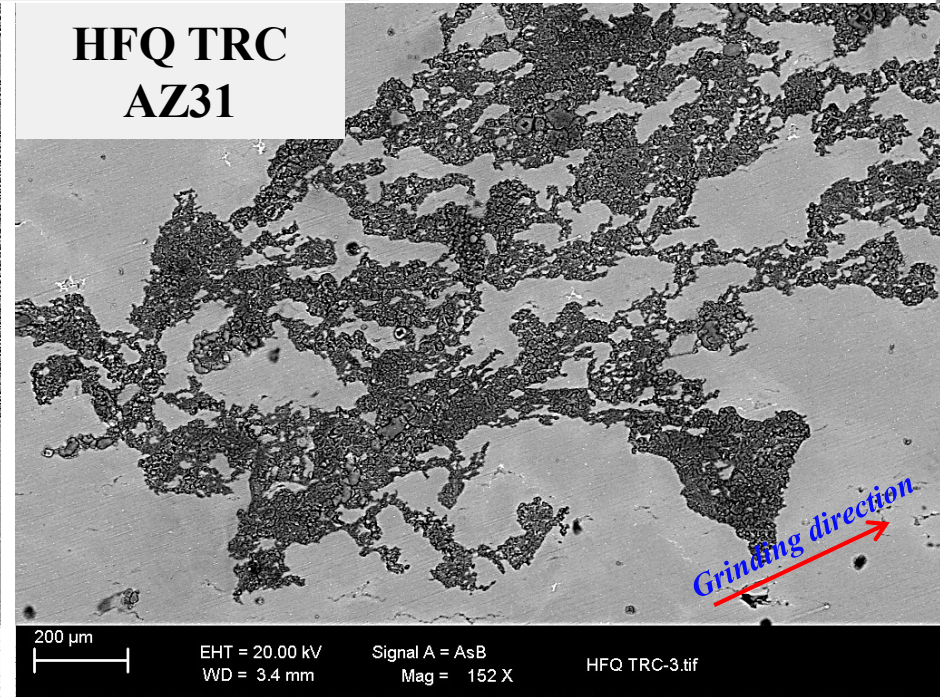
# CORROSION MORPHOLOGY

## *'Filiform-like corrosion'*

As-cast TRC  
AZ31



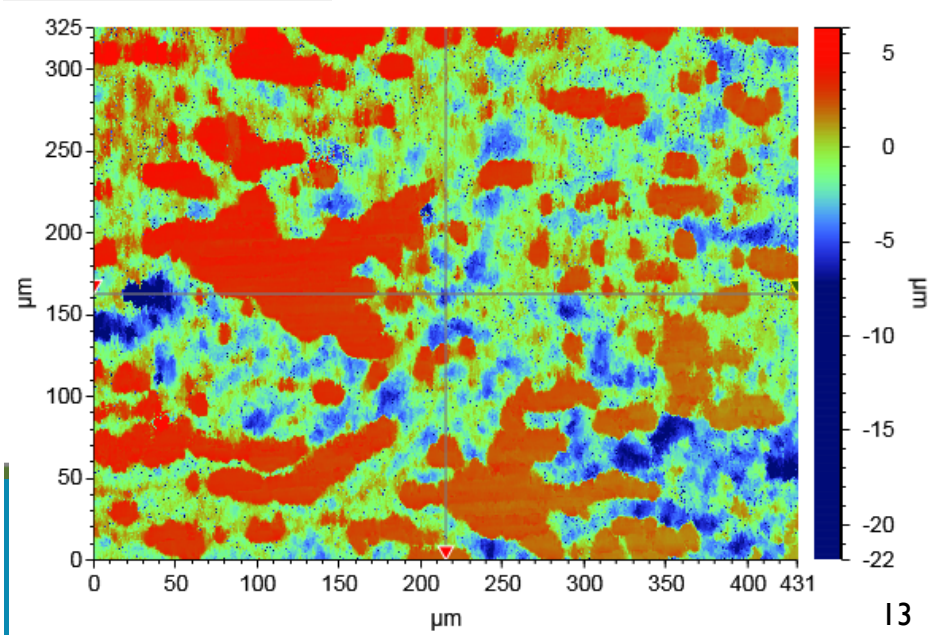
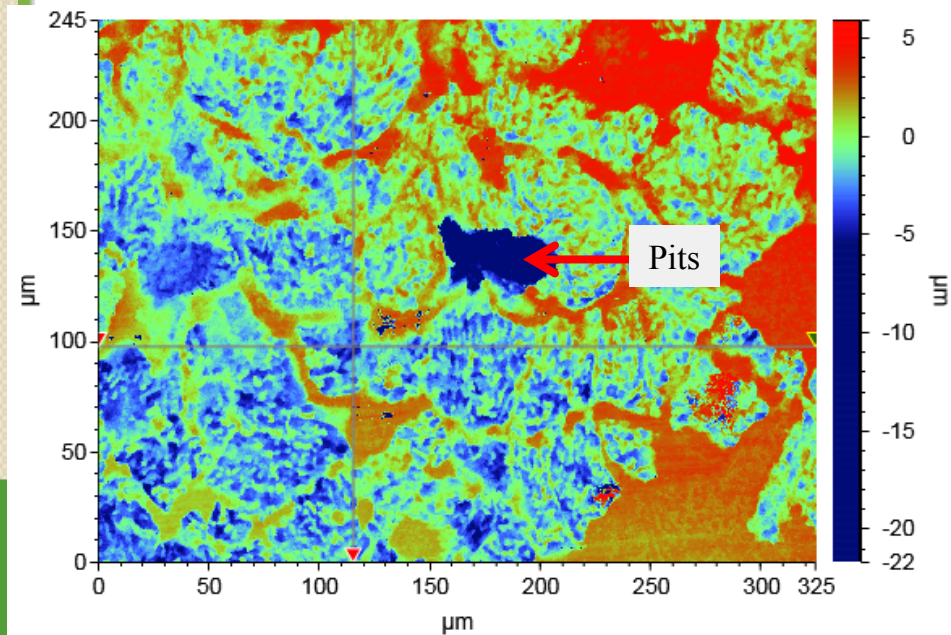
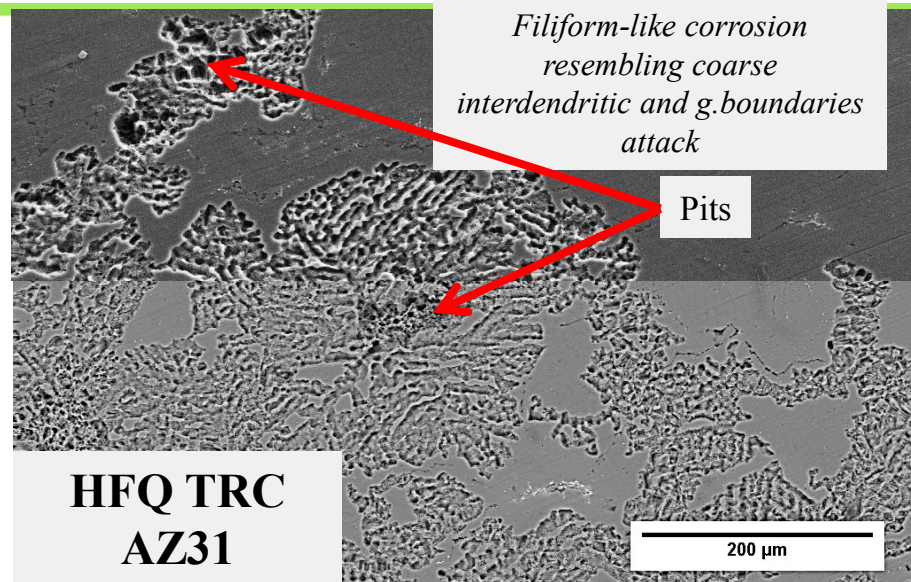
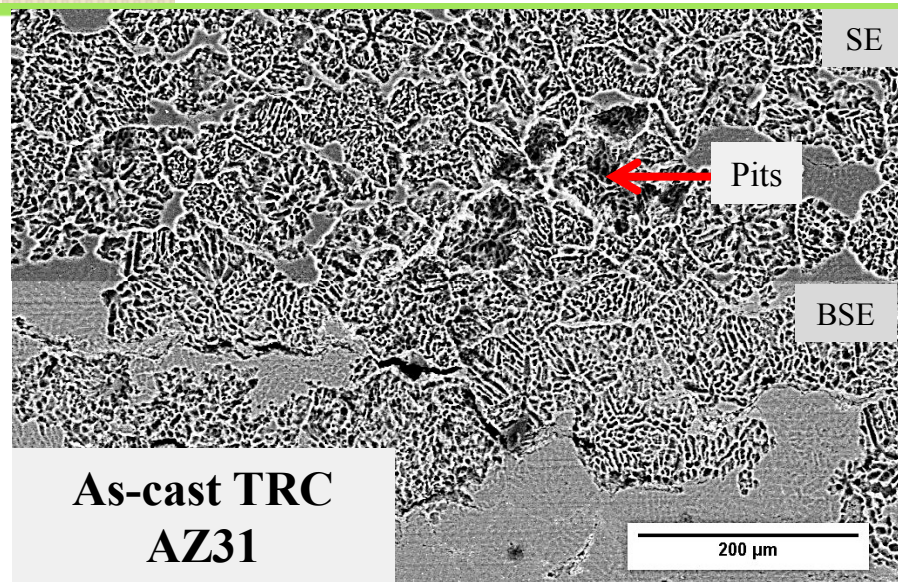
HFQ TRC  
AZ31



- ✓ *Propagation following grinding direction*
- ✓ *Corrosion features, resembling the grain structure attack*

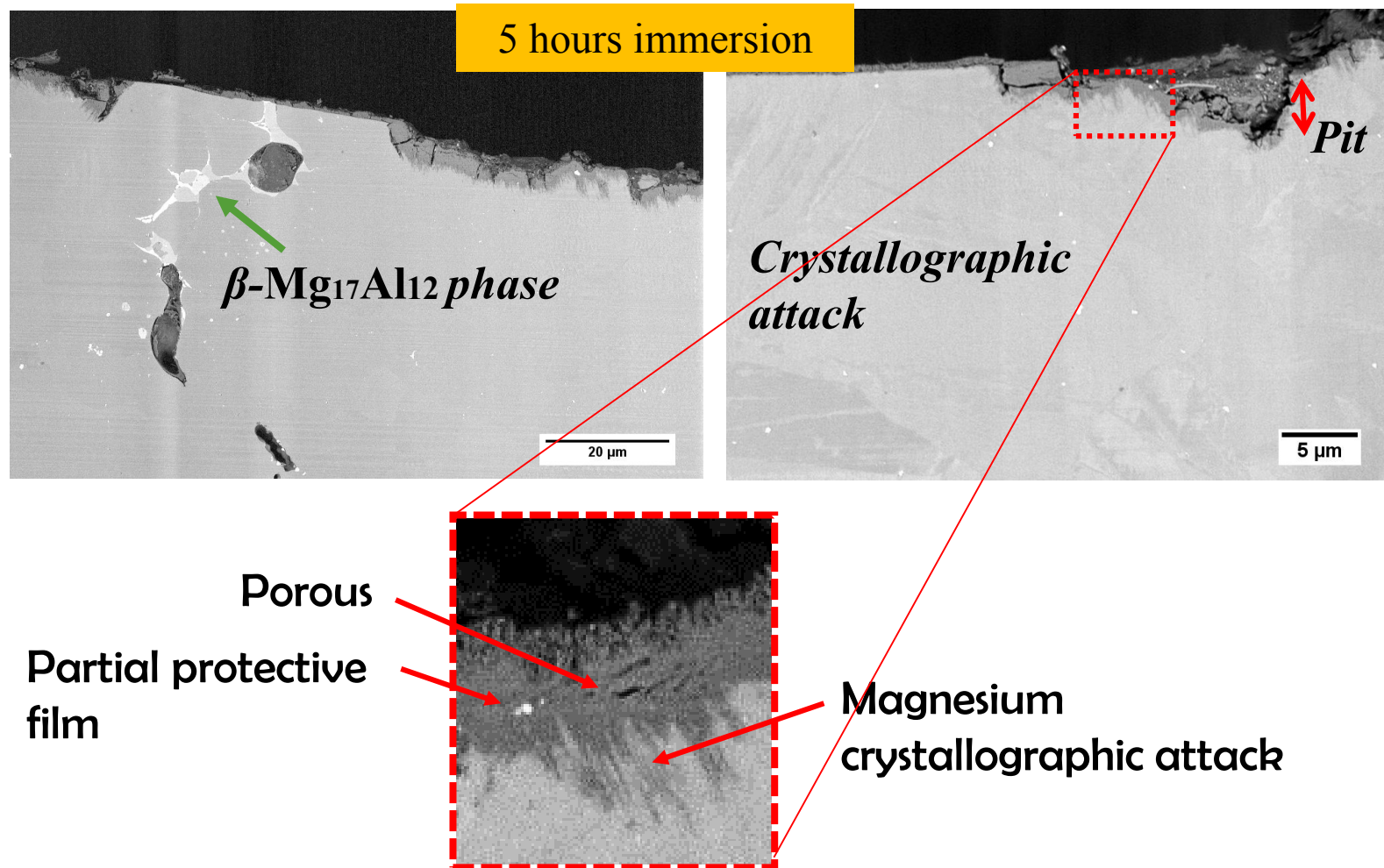


# CORROSION ATTACK IN 5 HRS



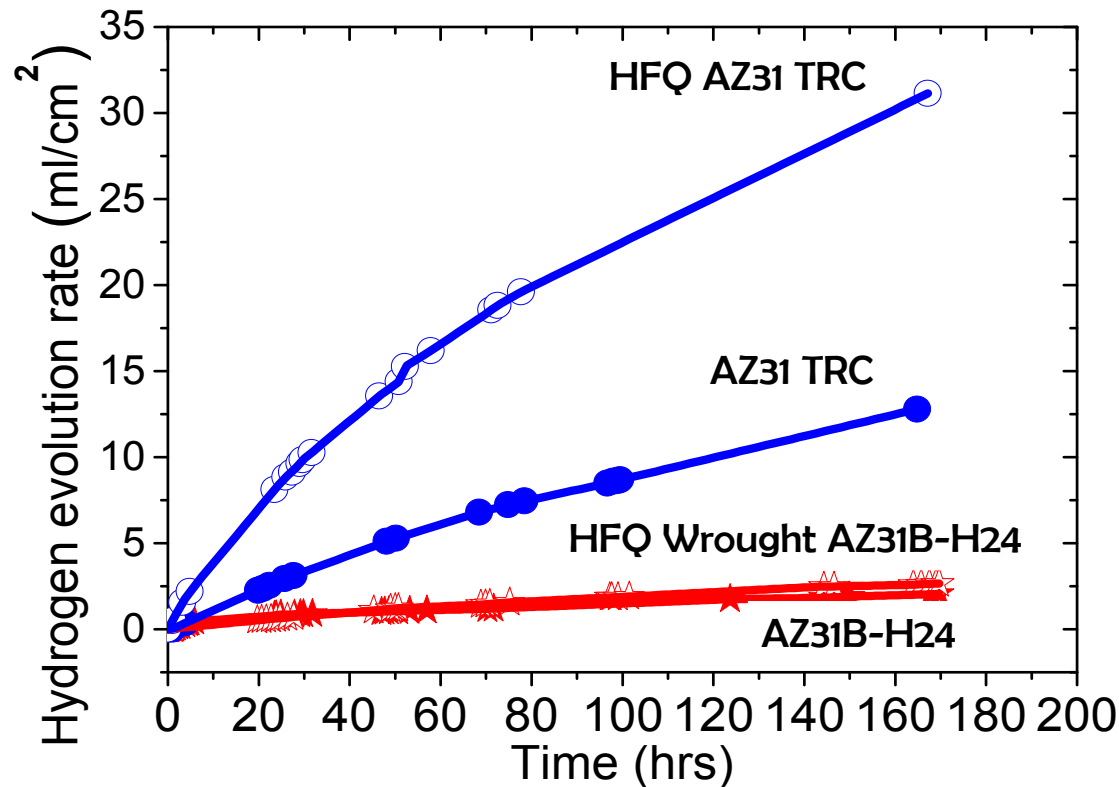


# THROUGH-THICKNESS CHARACTERIZATION



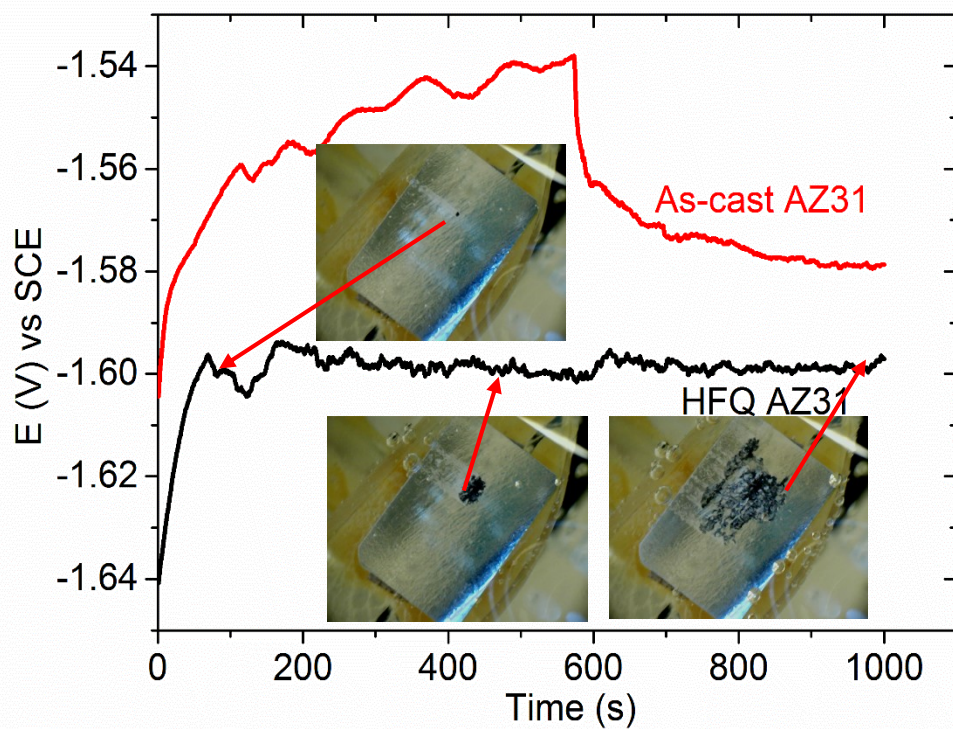
# HYDROGEN EVOLUTION EXPERIMENT

- Experiment to quantify degradation rate (corrosion rate) of magnesium alloy
- One mole of  $H_2$  evolved = one mole of Mg dissolved

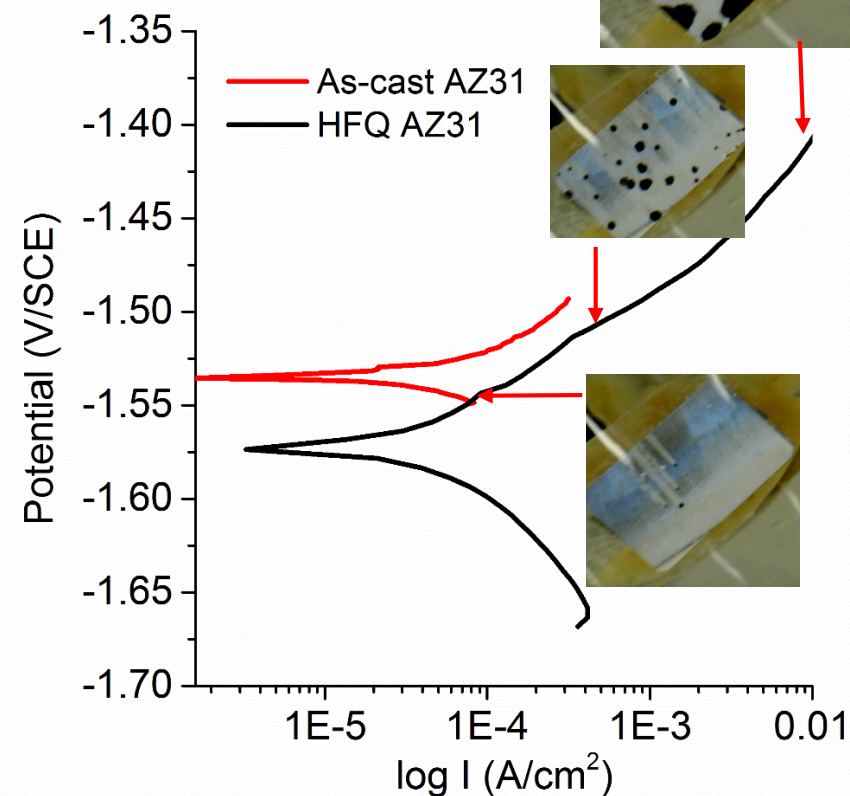


# ELECTROCHEMICAL MEASUREMENT

## Open circuit potential

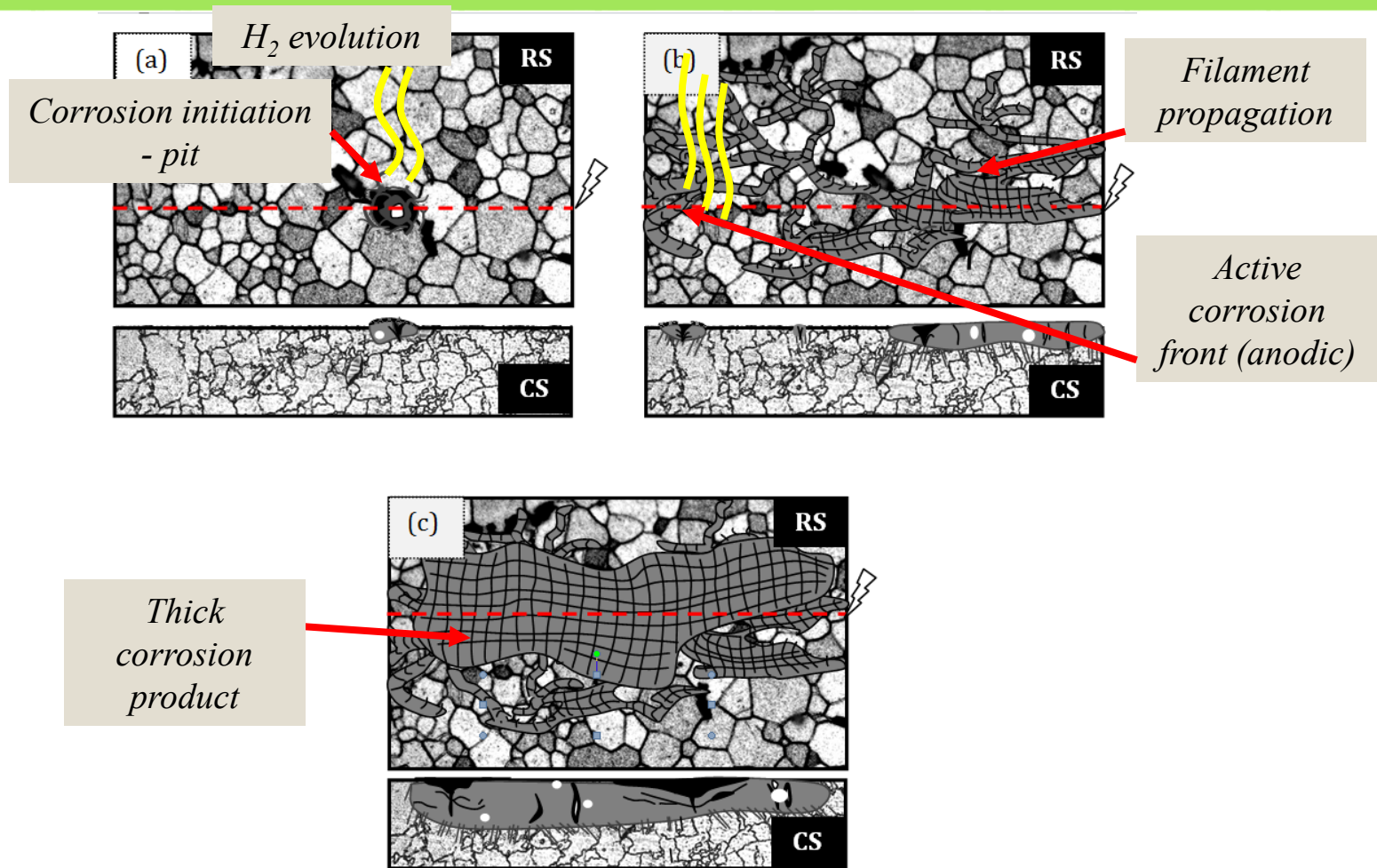


## Potentiodynamic Polarisation





# CORROSION MECHANISM (SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM)



# CONCLUSION

- Microstructure evolution after HFQ
  - HFQ TRC AZ31 = Recrystallised bimodal grains with coarse dendrite morphology, discontinuous distribution of  $\beta\text{-Mg}_{17}\text{Al}_{12}$  phase.
- Corrosion behaviour of as-cast and HFQ AZ31 Magnesium alloys
  - Corrosion feature = Filiform-like corrosion depending on the grain structure (Shallow pit and filament track)
  - As-cast TRC AZ31 alloy = interdendritic attack, HFQ TRC alloy = filament propagation resembling interdendritic and grain boundary attack
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corrosion propagation = Thick corrosion product (pit growth and propagation)
  - Discontinuous  $\beta\text{-Mg}_{17}\text{Al}_{12}$  phase = Cathodic reaction = increase hydrogen evolution rate
  - HFQ process = Ruling the corrosion propagation appearance according to the grains structure, influenced by second phase distribution